पोटाश का कोई स्वदेशी उत्पादन नहीं है क्योंकि देश में इस पोषक का कोई ज्ञात एवं वाणिज्यिक रूप से व्यवहार्य स्रोत नहीं है।

(ग) देश में उर्वरकों के उत्पादन के लिए आवश्यक कच्चे मालों एवं फीडस्टाक की उपलब्धता में प्रतिबन्धों के अन्तर्गत नई क्षमताओं के निर्माण अथवा वर्तमान क्षमताओं के विस्तारण के लिए हर प्रयास किए गए हैं। उर्वरक कम्पनियों को आवश्यक कच्चे मालों और फीडस्टाक से सम्पन्न अन्य देशों में संयुक्त उद्यम स्थापित करने के लिए भी प्रोत्साहित किया गया है।

Long term of Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited

2882. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd. has prepared a comprehensive long term plan to become an integrated producer of vital farm inputs and expand its presence in the agricultural sector;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether IFFCO propose to promote a company under the name of IFFCO-AGRO-CHEM LTD. to set up a Rs. 30 crore unit to produce technical grade pesticides;

(d) whether the plan also include a project for doubling the capacity of Aonla fertilizer project in the country; and

(e) if so, the name of location where the said project is to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. M/s Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO) has a comprehensive long term plan to produce other farm inputs such as seeds and pesticides, besides fertilizers. IFFCO has already undertaken the seed multiplication programme. It also has plans to promote a new company under the name of "IFFCO AGROCHEM LTD." for manufacture and distribution of technical grade pesticides, at an estimated cost of Rs. 15.94 crores.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. IFFCO is implementing a project for doubling the capacity of its ammonia-urea plant at Aonla, Disst. Bareilly (Uttar Pradesh)

Hike in the price of Industrial Alcohol

2883. SHRI S. VIDUTHALA VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the industries using the industrial alcohol are suffering heavily due to price rise of this raw material after decontrol policy was announced.

(b) if so what remedial action Government has taken or propose to take to curb the price rise in the industries mentioned above; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Alcohol based Chemicals Industries have represented to the Government that they are under strain due to high price of molasses and alcohol prevailing in the market.

(b) and (c) The Government have reduced import duty on molasses from 65 per cent to 10 per cent and on denatured alcohol required for industrial use from 105 per cent to 10 per cent to make them available at competitive international prices.

Gap between the retention and sales price of fertilizers

2384. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gap between the retention price and the sales price of fertilizers has been increasing;